06/24/97

06/26/97

06/26/97

Activity/operator Location Date 05/22/97 Apache Corporation, Structure Removal Operations, SEA No. Vermilion Area, Block 325, Lease OCS-G 2089, 92 miles south of the shore of Vermilion Parish, Louisiana. ES/SR 97-104. Apache Corporation, Structure Removal Operations, SEA No. Vermilion Area, Block 61, Lease OCS-G 7679, 14 miles south 06/24/97 ES/SR 97-105. of the shore of Vermilion Parish, Louisiana. Union Pacific Resources, Structure Removal Operations, SEA High Island Area, Blocks A-562. A-193, and A-200; Leases 05/15/97 Nos. ES/SR 97-107 through 97-109. OCS-G 13436, 6211 and 8172; 125 miles south of Sabine Pass, Texas. CNG Producing Company, Structure Removal Operations, SEA Ship Shoal Area, Blocks 246 and 271, Leases OCS-G 1027 06/24/97 Nos. ES/SR 97-110 through 97-112. and 1038, 48 to 55 miles from the shoreline of Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana. Galveston Area, Block 391, Lease OCS-G 3740, 27 miles Seagull Energy E&P Inc., Structure Removal Operations, SEA 06/24/97 Nos. ES/SR 97-115 and 97-116. from the shoreline of Brazoria County, Texas. Newfield Exploration Company, Structure Removal Operations, East Cameron Area, Block 46, Lease OCS-G 3288, 15 miles 06/18/97 SEA No. ES/SR 97-117. south of Cameron Parish, Louisiana. Enron Oil & Gas Company, Structure Removal Operations, Viosca Knoll Area, Block, 32, Lease OCS-G 7871, 18 miles 06/05/97 SEA No. ES/SR 97-118. south of the shore of Dauphin Island, Alabama. The Coastal Corporation, Structure Removal Operations, SEA West Cameron Area, Block 498, Lease OCS-G 3520, 85 06/05/97 miles south of Cameron Parish, Louisiana. No. ES/SR 97-119. Chevron U.S.A., Structure Removal Operations, SEA Nos. ES/ Bay Marchand Area, Blocks 2 and 3, Leases OCS 0369 and 06/12/97 SR 97-120 and 97-121. OCS 0370, 5 miles south of Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. Union Pacific Resources, Structure Removal Operations, SEA Ship Shoal Area, Block 251, Lease OCS-G 10782, 49 miles 06/26/97 No. ES/SR 97-122. south of Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana. Murphy Exploration and Producing Company, Structure Re-Eugene Island Area, Block 47, Lease OCS 0317, 10 miles 06/19/97 moval Operations, SEA Nos. ES/SR 97-123 and 97-124. south of St. Mary Parish, Louisiana. Ship Shoal Area, Blocks 90, 92, 93, 94, 120, and 134, Leases 06/23/97 Murphy Exploration and Production Company, Structure Removal Operations, SEA Nos. ES/SR 97-125 through 97-133. OCS 0063, OCS 0042, OCS-G 5540, OCS-G 5545, and OCS-G 5201, 25 miles south of Terrebonne Parish, Louisi-

Persons interested in reviewing environmental documents for the proposals listed above or obtaining information about EA's and FONSI's prepared for activities on the Gulf of Mexico OCS are encouraged to contact the MMS office in the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region.

SEA No. ES/SR 97-134.

SEA No. ES/SR 97-136.

ations, SEA No. ES/SR 97-135.

Enron Oil and Gas Company, Structure Removal Operations,

Santa Fe Energy Resources, Inc., Structure Removal Oper-

Enron Oil and Gas Company, Structure Removal Operations,

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Public Information Unit. Information Services Section, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, Minerals Management Service, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, Telephone (504) 736-2519.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The MMS prepares EA's and FONSI's for proposals which relate to exploration for and the development/production of oil and gas resources on the Gulf of Mexico OCS. The EA's examine the potential environmental effects of activities described in the proposals and present MMS conclusions regarding the significance of those effects. Environmental Assessments are used as a basis for determining whether or not approval of the proposals constitutes major Federal actions that significantly affect the quality of the human environment in the sense of NEPA Section 102(2)(C). A FONSI is prepared in those instances where the MMS finds

that approval will not result in significant effects on the quality of the human environment. The FONSI briefly presents the basis for that finding and includes a summary or copy of the EA.

This notice constitutes the public notice of availability of environmental documents required under the NEPA Regulations.

Dated: July 16, 1997.

Chris C. Oynes,

Regional Director, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region. [FR Doc. 97-19505 Filed 7-23-97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4310-MR-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Outer Continental Shelf, Western Gulf of Mexico, Oil and Gas Lease Sale 168

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service,

ACTION: Final Notice of Sale.

1. Authority. This Notice is published pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331–1356, (1988)), and the regulations issued thereunder (30 CFR Part 256).

A "Sale Notice Package," containing this Notice and several supporting

documents referenced in the Notice, including the maps, "Lease Terms, Bidding Systems, and Royalty Suspension Areas, Sale 168" and "Stipulations and Deferred Blocks, Sale 168," is available from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office Public Information Unit (see paragraph 14(a) of this Notice).

2. Filing of Bids.

Viosca Knoll Area, Block 156, Lease OCS-G 7885, 25 miles

Vermilion Area, Block 249, Lease OCS-G 6678, 70 miles

East Cameron Area, Block 306, Lease OCS-G 7667, 95

south of Jackson County, Mississippi.

south of Vermilion Parish, Louisiana.

miles south of Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

(a) Filing of Bids. Sealed bids will be received by the Regional Director (RD), Gulf of Mexico Region, Minerals Management Service (MMS), 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394. Bids may be delivered in person to that address during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Central Standard Time (c.s.t.)) until the Bid Submission Deadline at 10 a.m., Tuesday, August 26, 1997. Hereinafter, all times cited in this Notice refer to c.s.t. unless otherwise stated. Bids will not be accepted the day of Bid Opening, Wednesday, August 27, 1997. Bids received by the RD later than the time and date specified above will be returned unopened to the bidders. Bids may not be modified or withdrawn unless written modification or written withdrawal request is received by the RD prior to 10 a.m., Tuesday, August 26, 1997.

An eligible lease from this sale may receive a royalty suspension volume only if it is in a field where no currently active lease produced oil or gas (other than test production) before November 28, 1995. The following applies only to eligible leases in fields meeting this condition.

- (i) The royalty suspension volumes are:
- —17.5 million barrels of oil equivalent (mmboe) in 200 to 400 meters of water;
- —52.5 mmboe in 400 to 800 meters of water: and
- —87.5 mmboe in 800 meters of water and greater.

A map titled "Lease Terms, Bidding Systems, and Royalty Suspension Areas, Sale 168" depicting blocks in which such suspensions may apply is currently available from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office Public Information Unit (see paragraph 14(a) of this Notice).

- (ii) When production first occurs from any of the eligible leases in a field (not including test production), MMS will determine the royalty suspension volume applicable to eligible lease(s) in that field. The determination is based on the royalty suspension volumes and the map specified in paragraph 4(c)(3)(i) above.
- (iii) If a new field consists of eligible leases in different water depth categories, the royalty suspension volume associated with the deepest eligible lease applies.

(iv) If an eligible lease is the only eligible lease in a field, royalty is not owed on the production from the lease up to the amount of the applicable royalty suspension volume.

(v) If a field consists of more than one eligible lease, payment of royalties on the eligible leases' initial production is suspended until their cumulative production equals the field's established royalty suspension volume. The royalty suspension volume for each eligible lease is equal to each lease's actual production (or production allocated under an approved unit agreement) until the field's established royalty suspension volume is reached.

(vi) If an eligible lease is added to a field that has an established royalty suspension volume, the field's royalty suspension volume will not change even if the added lease is in deeper water. The additional lease may receive a royalty suspension volume only to the extent of its production before the cumulative production from all eligible leases in the field equals the field's previously established royalty suspension volume.

(vii) If MMS reassigns a well on an eligible lease to another field, the past production from that well will count toward the royalty suspension volume, if any, specified for the new field to which it is assigned. The past production will not be counted toward the suspension volume, if any, from the first field.

(viii) An eligible lease may receive a royalty suspension volume only if the entire lease is west of 87 degrees, 30 minutes West longitude. A field that lies on both sides of this meridian will receive a royalty suspension volume only for those eligible leases lying entirely west of the meridian.

(ix) An eligible lease may obtain more than one royalty suspension volume. If a new field is discovered on an eligible lease that already benefits from the royalty suspension volume for another field, production from that new field receives a separate royalty suspension.

(x) A lessee must measure natural gas production subject to the royalty suspension volume as follows: 5.62 thousand cubic feet of natural gas equals one barrel of oil equivalent, as measured fully saturated at 15.025 psi, 60 degrees F.

(xi) In any year during which the arithmetic average of the closing prices on the New York Mercantile Exchange for light sweet crude oil exceeds \$28.00 per barrel, royalties on the production of oil must be paid at the lease stipulated royalty rate (see paragraphs 4(c)(1) and (2) above), and production during such years counts toward the royalty suspension volume.

In any year during which the arithmetic average of the closing prices on the New York Mercantile Exchange for natural gas exceeds \$3.50 per million British thermal units, royalties on the production of natural gas must be paid at the lease stipulated royalty rate (see paragraphs 4(c)(1) and (2) above), and production during such years counts toward the royalty suspension volume.

These prices for oil and natural gas are as of the end of 1994, and must be adjusted for subsequent years by the percentage by which the implicit price deflator for the gross domestic product changed during the preceding calendar year.

(xii) A royalty suspension will continue until the end of the month in which the cumulative production from eligible leases in the field reaches the royalty suspension volume for the field.

Paragraph 14(1), *Information to Lessees*, contains additional information pertaining to royalty suspension matters.

5. Equal Opportunity. The certification required by 41 CFR 60–

1.7(b) and Executive Order No. 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended by Executive Order No. 11375 of October 13, 1967, on the Compliance Report Certification Form, Form MMS–2033 (June 1985), and the Affirmative Action Representation Form, Form MMS–2032 (June 1985) must be on file in the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office prior to lease award (see paragraph 14(e)).

6. Bid Opening. Bid opening will begin at the bid opening times stated in paragraph 2. The opening of the bids is for the sole purpose of publicly announcing bids received, and no bids will be accepted or rejected at that time.

7. Deposit of Payment. Any cash, cashier's checks, certified checks, or bank drafts submitted with high bids, and any EFT payments made in accordance with Paragraph 3(a)(2) above, will be deposited by the Government in an interest-bearing account in the U.S. Treasury during the period the bids are being considered. Such a deposit does not constitute and shall not be construed as acceptance of any bid on behalf of the United States.

8. Withdrawal of Tracts. The United States reserves the right to withdraw any tract from this sale prior to issuance of a written acceptance of a bid for the tract.

9. Acceptance, Rejection, or Return of Bids. The United States reserves the right to reject any and all bids. In any case, no bid will be accepted, and no lease for any tract will be awarded to any bidder, unless:

(a) The bidder has complied with all requirements of this Notice and applicable regulations;

(b) The bid is the highest valid bid;

(c) The amount of the bid has been determined to be adequate by the authorized officer.

No bonus bid will be considered for acceptance unless it provides for a cash bonus in the amount of \$25.00 or more per acre or fraction thereof. Any bid submitted which does not conform to the requirements of this Notice, the OCS Lands Act, as amended, and other applicable regulations may be returned to the person submitting that bid by the RD and not considered for acceptance.

To ensure that the Government receives a fair return for the conveyance of lease rights for this sale, tracts will be evaluated in accordance with established MMS bid adequacy procedures. A copy of the current procedures ("Summary of Procedures for Determining Bid Adequacy at Offshore Oil and Gas Lease Sales: Effective August 1997, with Sale 168") is available from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office Public

FEB 17'06 16:54 No.001 'P.06

Exhibit 2

SALE 168 LEASE ADDENDUM

ROYALTY Suspension Provisions Pursuant to Public Law 104-58

(As specified in the Plant Notice of Sale 168, published in the Federal Register on July 24, 1997)

To the following extent, this addendum modifies Sections 5 and 6 of this lease instrument.

Sec. 5. Minimum Royalty.

The minimum royalty requirement is not applicable during periods of royalty suspension.

Sec. 6. Royalty on Production.

In accordance with Public Law 104-58, signed by the President on November 28, 1995, the following procedures for the suspension of royalty payments on production apply to Sale 166 leases:

MMS will allow only one royalty suspension volume per field regardless of the number of eligible leases producing the field. An eligible lease is one that: is located in the Gulf of Mexico in water depths 200 meters or deeper; lies wholly west of 87 degrees, 30 minutes West longitude; and is offered subject to a royalty suspension volume authorized by statute.

An eligible lease may receive a royalty suspension volume only if it is in a field where no currently active lease produced oil or gas (other than test production) before November 28, 1995. The following applies only to eligible leasos in fields meeting this condition.

- (B) The royalty suspension volumes are:
 - 17.5 million barrels of vil equivalent (mmbue) in 200 to 400 meters of water;
 - 52.5 mmboe in 400 to 800 meters of water; and,
 - 87.5 immboe in 800 meters of water and greater

A map titled "Lease Terms, Bidding Systems, and Royalty Suspension Areas" (March 1996) depicting blocks in which such suspensions may apply is provided by the MMS GOM Regional Office in conjunction with the Final Notice of Sale 168.

(b) When production first occurs from any of the eligible leases in a field (not including test production), MMS will determine the royalty suspension volume applicable to eligible lease(s) in that field. The determination is based on the rayalty suspension volumes and the map specified in the paragraph above.

Page 2a

Exhibit 2

- (c) If a new field consists of eligible leases in different water depth calegories, the royalty suspension volume associated with the deepest eligible lense applies.
- (d) If an eligible lease is the only eligible lease in a field, royalty is not owed on the production from thre lease up to the amount of the applicable royalty suspension volume.
- (e) If a field consists of more than one eligible lease, payment of royalties on the eligible leases' initial production is suspended until their cumulative production equals the field's established royally suspension volume. The royalty suspension volume for each eligible lease is equal to each lease's actual production (or production allocated under an approved unit agreement) until the field's established royalty suspension volume is reached.
- (f) If an eligible least is added to a field that has an established royalty suspension volume, the field's royalty suspension volume will not change even if the added lease is in deeper water. The additional lease may receive a royalty suspension volume only to the extent of its production before the cumulative production from all eligible leases in the field equals the field's previously established royalty suspension
- (g) IFMMS reassigns a well on an eligible lease to another field, the past production from that well will count toward the royalty suspension volume, if any, specified for the new field to which it is assigned. The past production will not be counted toward the suspension volume, if any, from the first field.
- (h) An eligible lease may receive a royalty suspension volume only if the entire lease is west of 87 degrees, 30 minutes West longitude. A field that lies on both sides of this meridian will receive a royalty suspension volume only for those eligible leases lying entirely west of the meridian.
- (i) An eligible lease may obtain more than one royalty suspension volume. If a new field is discovered on an eligible lease that already benefits from the royalty suspension volume for another field. production from that new field receives a separate royally suspension,
- (i) A lessee must measure natural gas production subject to the royalty suspension volume as follows: 5.62 thousand cubic feet of natural gas equals one barrel of oil equivalent, as measured fully saturated at 15.025 psi, 60 degrees F.
- (k) In any year during which the arithmetic average of the closing prices on the New York Mercantile Exchange for light sweet crude oil exceeds \$28.00 per barrel, royalties on the production of oil must be paid at the lease stipulated royalty rate, and production during such years counts toward the royalty suspension volume. In any year during which the arithmetic average of the closing prices on the New York Mercantile Exchange for natural gas exceeds \$3.50 per million British thermal units, royalties on the production of natural gas must be paid at the lease stipulated royalty rate, and production during such years counts toward the royalty suspension volume. These prices for oil and natural gas are as of the end of 1994 and must be adjusted for subsequent years by the percentage by which the implicit price deflator for the gross domestic product changed during the preceding calendar year.
- (I) A royalty suspension will continue until the end of the month in which the cumulative production from eligible leases in the field reaches the royalty suspension volume for the field.

Page 2h

page 8

§ 203.88 What is in a production report?

This report supports your development and production timing and product quality expectations and must contain the following elements.

- (a) Production profiles by well completion and field that specify the actual and projected production by year for each of the following products: oil, condensate, gas, and associated gas. The production from each profile must be consistent with a specific level of reserves and resources on the aggregated distribution of field size.
- (b) Production drive mechanisms for each reservoir.

§ 203.89 What is in a deep water cost report?

This report lists all actual and projected costs for your field, must explain and document the source of each cost estimate, and must identify the following elements.

- (a) Sunk cost, which are all your eligible post-discovery exploration, development, and production expenses (no third party costs), and also include the eligible costs of the discovery well on the field. Report them in nominal dollars and only if you have documentation. We count sunk costs in an evaluation (specified in § 203.68) as after-tax expenses, using nominal dollar amounts.
- (b) Appraisal, delineation and development costs. Base them on actual spending, current authorization for expenditure, engineering estimates, or analogous projects. These costs cover:
- (1) Platform well drilling and average depth;
 - (2) Platform well completion;
- (3) Subsea well drilling and average depth;
 - (4) Subsea well completion;
 - (5) Production system (platform); and
- (6) Flowline fabrication and installation.
- (c) Production costs based on historical costs, engineering estimates, or analogous projects. These costs cover:
 - (1) Operation;
 - (2) Equipment; and
- (3) Existing royalty overrides (we will not use the royalty overrides in evaluations).
- (d) Transportation costs, based on historical costs, engineering estimates, or analogous projects. These costs cover:
- (1) Oil or gas tariffs from pipeline or tankerage;
- (2) Trunkline and tieback lines; and
- (3) Gas plant processing for natural gas liquids.
- (e) Abandonment costs, based on historical costs, engineering estimates, or analogous projects. You should provide the costs to plug and abandon

only wells and to remove only production systems for which you have not incurred costs as of the time of application submission. You should also include a point estimate or distribution of prospective salvage value for all potentially reusable facilities and materials, along with the source and an explanation of the figures provided.

- (f) A set of cost estimates consistent with each one of up to three field-development scenarios and production profiles (conservative, most likely, optimistic). You should express costs in constant real dollar terms for the base year. You may also express the uncertainty of each cost estimate with a minimum and maximum percentage of the base value.
- (g) A spending schedule. You should provide costs for each year (in real dollars) for each category in paragraphs (a) through (f) of this section.
- (h) A summary of other costs which are ineligible for evaluating your need for relief. These costs cover:
- (1) Expenses before first discovery on the field;
 - (2) Cash bonuses;
 - (3) Fees for royalty relief applications;
- (4) Lease rentals, royalties, and payments of net profit share and net revenue share;
 - (5) Legal expenses;
 - (6) Damages and losses;
 - (7) Taxes;
- (8) Interest or finance charges, including those embedded in equipment leases;
 - (9) Fines or penalties; and
- (10) Money spent on previously existing obligations (e.g., royalty overrides or other forms of payment for acquiring a financial position in a lease, expenditures for plugging wells and removing and abandoning facilities that existed on the application submission date).

§ 203.90 What is in a fabricator's confirmation report?

This report shows you have committed in a timely way to the approved system for production. This report must include the following (or its equivalent for unconventionally acquired systems):

- (a) A copy of the contract(s) under which the fabrication yard is building the approved system for you;
- (b) A letter from the contractor building the system to the MMS's GOM Regional Supervisor—Production and Development, certifying when construction started on your system; and
- (c) Evidence of an appropriate down payment or equal action that you've started acquiring the approved system.

§ 203.91 What is in a post-production development report?

For each cost category in the deep water cost report, you must compare actual costs up to the date when production starts to your planned preproduction costs. If your application included more than one development scenario, you need to compare actual costs with those in your scenario of most likely development. Keep supporting records for these costs and make them available to us on request.

[FR Doc. 98–842 Filed 1–15–98; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4310–MR–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

30 CFR Part 260

RIN 1010-AC14

Royalty Relief for New Leases in Deep Water

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to offer Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) tracts in parts of the Gulf of Mexico for lease with suspension of royalties for a volume, value, or period of production. This applies to tracts in water depths of 200 meters or more. This final rule specifies the royalty-suspension terms for lease sales using this bidding system.

DATES: This final rule is effective February 17, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Walter Cruickshank, Chief, Washington Division, Office of Policy and Management Improvement, at (202) 208–3822.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Legislative

On November 28, 1995, President Clinton signed Public Law 104–58, which included the Outer Continental Shelf Deep Water Royalty Relief Act ("Act"). The Act contains four major provisions concerning new and existing leases. New leases are tracts leased during a sale held after the Act's enactment on November 28, 1995. Existing leases are all other leases.

First, section 302 of the Act clarifies the Secretary's authority in 43 U.S.C. 1337(a)(3) to reduce royalty rates on existing leases to promote development, increase production, and encourage production of marginal resources on producing or non-producing leases. This provision applies only to leases in the Gulf of Mexico west of 87 degrees, 30 minutes West longitude.

Second, section 302 also provides that "new production" from existing leases in deep water (water at least 200 meters deep) qualifies for royalty suspensions if the Secretary determines that the new production would not be economic without royalty relief. The Act defines "new production" as production (1) From a lease from which no royalties are due on production, other than test production, before the date of the enactment of the Outer Continental Shelf Deep Water Royalty Relief Act; or (2) resulting from lease development activities under a Development Operations Coordination Document (DOCD), or supplement thereto that would expand production significantly beyond the level anticipated in the DOCD approved by the Secretary after the date of the Act. The Secretary must determine the appropriate royaltysuspension volume on a case-by-case basis, subject to specified minimums for leases not in production before the date of enactment. This provision also applies only to leases in the Gulf of Mexico west of 87 degrees, 30 minutes West longitude.

Third, section 303 establishes a new bidding system that allows the Secretary to offer tracts with royalty suspensions for a period, volume, or value the

Secretary determines.

Fourth, section 304 provides that all tracts offered within 5 years of the date of enactment in deep water (water at least 200 meters deep) in the Gulf of Mexico west of 87 degrees, 30 minutes West longitude, must be offered under the new bidding system. The following minimum volumes of production are not subject to a royalty obligation:

• 17.5 million barrels of oil equivalent (MMBOE) for leases in 200 to 400 meters of water;

• 52.5 MMBOE for leases in 400 to 800 meters of water; and

 87.5 MMBOE for leases in more than 800 meters.

Regulatory

On February 2, 1996, we published a final rule modifying the regulations governing the bidding systems we use to offer OCS tracts for lease (61 FR 3800). New § 260.110(a)(7) implements the new bidding system under section 303 of the Act.

We published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR) in the **Federal Register** on February 23, 1996 (61 FR 6958), and informed the public of our intent to develop comprehensive regulations implementing the Act. The

ANPR sought comments and recommendations to assist us in that process. In addition, we conducted a public meeting in New Orleans on March 12–13, 1996, about the matters the ANPR addressed.

On March 25, 1996, we published an interim final rule in the Federal Register (61 FR 12022) specifying the royalty-suspension terms under which the Secretary would make tracts available under the bidding system requirements of sections 303 and 304 of the Act. We issued an interim final rule, in part, because we needed royalty relief rules in place before the lease sale held on April 24, 1996. However, in the interim final rule we asked for comments on any of the provisions and stated that we would consider those comments and issue a final rule. This final rule now modifies some of the provisions in the March 25, 1996, interim final rule.

On May 31, 1996, we published another interim final rule in the Federal Register (61 FR 27263) implementing section 302 of the Act. The interim final rule established the terms and conditions under which the Minerals Management Service (MMS) would suspend royalty payments on certain deep water leases issued as a result of a lease sale held before November 28, 1995. (The rule also contained provisions dealing with royalty relief on producing leases under the authority granted the Secretary by the OCS Lands Act.) We again asked for comments that we would consider before issuing a final rule.

Simultaneous with the publication of this rule, we are issuing another final rule (RIN 1 interim fin 302 of the 30 CFR 203 Thresholds in

certain dee lesult of les November

II. Responses to Comments

One respondent—Exxon Exploration Company (Exxon)—submitted comments on the Interim Final Rule for Deep Water Royalty Relief for New Leases, issued March 25, 1996.

Exxon disagreed with our definition of the term "Field" (§ 260.102). Exxon said that our definition could be applied in such a way as to place unrelated and widely separated reservoirs within the same field. Exxon offered an alternative definition that it said provides for the creation of fields based on geology by allowing the inclusion of separate reservoirs in the same field when there is a meaningful geologic relationship

between those reservoirs and avoids inclusion of reservoirs when such a relationship does not exist.

Exxon offered this alternative definition:

'Field means an area consisting of a single hydrocarbon reservoir or multiple hydrocarbon reservoirs all grouped on or related to same local geologic feature or stratigraphic trapping condition. There may be two or more reservoirs in a field that are separated vertically by intervening impervious strata. Separate reservoirs would be considered to constitute separate fields if significant lateral separation exists and/or they are controlled by separate trapping mechanisms. Reservoirs vertically separated by a significant interval of nonproductive strata may be considered as separate fields when their reservoir quality, fluid content, drive mechanisms, and trapping mechanisms are sufficiently different to support such a determination.

Except for a minor editorial change, we have decided to leave the definition of "Field" unchanged from the interim final rule for the following reasons:

- The definition in the interim final rule is similar to, or consistent with, standard definitions used in industry and government, including the American Petroleum Institute, the National Petroleum Council, and the Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration.
- We do not segregate reservoirs vertically since the reservoirs are developed from the same platforms and use the same infrastructure. Affected lessees/operators typically make development decisions based on a primary objective(s) knowing that secondary targets exist which they will pursue subsequently.
- Reservoir quality, fluid content, and drive mechanisms are not appropriate determinants for field designations. These factors are reservoir performance/recovery issues. Indeed, such information is rarely available to MMS at the time field determinations are made. We have not considered these factors in our past field designations and their inclusion now would complicate the process significantly and lead to too much subjectivity.
- Elements of the alternative definition, e.g., "a significant interval of nonproductive strata" and "significant lateral separation" would be difficult to define and even more difficult to apply consistently.

We recognize industry's concerns about field designations. This rule establishes, as discussed below, a process whereby lessees may appeal field designations to the Director, MMS.

Other steps include:

• The MMS *Field Naming Handbook,* which explains our methodology for

Exhibit 4

Statement of Mr. Walter Cruickshank, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior before the United States House of Representatives, Committee on Government Reform, Subcommittee on Energy and Resources hearing transcript entitled, "Natural Gas Royalties: The Facts, The Remedies." March 1, 2006.

MR. CRUICKSHANK:

"I believe that what happened is –yes, the addendums to the lease were being changed to reflect the fact the regulations had changed and in doing so, the price threshold language came out for those two years. My understanding is people believed at the time the price threshold still applied, but the revisions clearly do not have that effect" (40).

Department of the Interior

Employees and Positions Involved in Leasing or Rule Processes Related to 1998/99 Leases

Note: Organization is a reconstruction based or	d available records		Involvement				
				Status	Current Phone #	Sale	Rules
Office of Policy Analysis:							
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Land and	d Minerals:						
AS/LM (1	996 - 1998)	Bob Armstrong		unknown		X	X
AS/LM (1	999)	Sylvia Baca		unknown		X	X
Office of the Solicitor:							
Assoc, Sol	licitor for Energy & Resources:	Katherine Henry		unknown		X	X
1		Peter Schaumberg		Retired		X	Х
SOL/ROM	4*:	Geoff Heath			I =	X	
SOL/ROM	1* :	Milo Mason				X	X
		Barry Crowell				X	
SOL/DMF	Z**	Glenda Owens			I =	X	
SOL/DMF	<	Joel Yudson			_	х	

^{*} Royalty and Offshore Minerals
** Division of Mineral Resources

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Outer Continental Shelf, Central Gulf of Mexico, Oil and Gas Lease Sale 172

ACTION: Final notice of sale 172.

On March 17, 1999, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) will open and publicly announce bids received for blocks offered in Sale 172, Central Gulf of Mexico, pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331-1356, as amended) and the regulations issued thereunder (30 CFR Part 256). Bidders can obtain a "Final Notice of Sale 172 Package" containing this Notice of Sale and several supporting and essential documents referenced herein, from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Region's Public Information Unit, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, (504) 736–2519 or (800) 200–GULF, or via the MMS Gulf of Mexico Region's Internet site at http:// www.gomr.mms.gov. The MMS also maintains a 24-hour Fax-on-Demand

www.gomr.mms.gov. The MMS also maintains a 24-hour Fax-on-Demand Service at (202) 219–1703. The "Final Notice of Sale 172 Package" contains information essential to bidders, and bidders are charged with the knowledge of the documents contained in the package.

Location and Time

Public bid reading will begin at 9 a.m., Wednesday, March 17, 1999, at the Hyatt Regency Conference Center (Cabildo Rooms), 500 Poydras Plaza, New Orleans, Louisiana. All times referred to in this document are local New Orleans time.

Filing of Bids

Bidders must submit sealed bids to the Regional Director (RD), MMS Gulf of Mexico Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) prior to the Bid Submission Deadline at 10 a.m., Tuesday, March 16, 1999. If the RD receives bids later than the time and date specified above, he will return the bids unopened to bidders. Bidders may not modify or withdraw their bids unless the RD receives a written modification or written withdrawal request prior to 10 a.m., Tuesday, March 16, 1999. In the event of widespread flooding or other natural disaster, the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office may extend the bid submission deadline. Bidders may call (504) 736-0537 for information about the possible extension of the bid submission deadline due to such an event.

Areas Offered for Leasing

The MMS is offering for leasing all the blocks and partial blocks listed in the document "Blocks Available for Leasing in Gulf of Mexico OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sale 172" included in the Sale Notice Package. All of these blocks are shown on the following Leasing Maps and Official Protraction Diagrams (which may be purchased from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office Public Information Unit).

Outer Continental Shelf Leasing Maps—Louisiana Nos. 1 through 12. This is a set of 30 maps which sells for \$32.

Outer Continental Shelf Official Protraction Diagrams (these diagrams sell for \$2.00 each):

NH 15–12 Ewing Bank (rev. 12/02/76). NH 16–4 Mobile (rev. 02/23/93). NH 16–7 Viosca Knoll (rev. 12/02/76). NH 16–10 Mississippi Canyon (rev. 05/01/96).

NG 15–3 Green Canyon (rev. 12/02/76).

NG 15-6 Walker Ridge (rev. 12/02/76). NG 15-9 (No Name) (rev. 04/27/89). NG 16-1 Atwater Valley (rev. 11/10/83).

NG 16–4 Lund (rev. 08/22/86). NG 16–7 (No Name) (rev. 04/27/89).

Acreage of all blocks is shown on these Leasing Maps and Official Protraction Diagrams. Available Federal acreage of blocks available in this sale is shown in the document "Blocks Available for Leasing in the Central Gulf of Mexico OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sale 172" included in the Sale Notice Package. Some of these blocks may be partially leased or transected by administrative lines such as the Federal/ State jurisdictional line. Information on the unleased portions of such blocks, including the exact acreage, is found in the document titled "Central Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 172—Unleased Split Blocks and Unleased Acreage of Blocks with Aliquots and Irregular Portions Under Lease," included in the Sale Notice Package.

Areas Not Available for Leasing

The following blocks in the Central Gulf of Mexico Planning Area are not available for leasing:

Blocks currently under lease; and the following unleased blocks or partial blocks:

Main Pass Area, South and East Addition, Blocks 253 and 254; and Viosca Knoll Blocks 213 and 256 (which are currently under appeal); and the following blocks which are beyond the United States Exclusive Economic Zone and have been temporarily deferred from leasing by the Department of the Interior due to ongoing negotiations with the Government of Mexico:

Area NG 15-9

Blocks 133 through 135 177 through 184 221 through 238 265 through 281 309 through 320 358

Area NG 16-7

Blocks 172, 173 213 through 217 252 through 261 296 through 305 349

Leasing Terms and Conditions

Primary lease terms, minimum bids, annual rental rates, royalty rates, and royalty suspension areas are shown on the map "Lease Terms and Economic Conditions, Sale 172, Final" for leases resulting from this sale:

Primary lease terms: 5 years for blocks in water depths of less than 400 meters; 8 years for blocks in water depths of 400 to 799 meters; and 10 years for blocks in waters depths of 800 meters or deeper;

Minimum bids: \$25 per acre or fraction thereof for blocks in water depths of less than 800 meters and \$37.50 per acre or fraction thereof for blocks in water depths of 800 meters or deeper (the minimum bid for each available block has been calculated and is shown in the document "Blocks Available for Leasing in Gulf of Mexico OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sale 172" included in the Sale Notice Package);

Annual rental rates: \$5 per acre or fraction thereof for blocks in water depths of less than 200 meters and \$7.50 per acre or fraction thereof for blocks in water depths of 200 meters or deeper, until initial production is obtained;

Royalty rates: 162/3% royalty rate for blocks in water depths of less than 400 meters and a 12½% royalty rate for blocks in waters depths of 400 meters or deeper, except during periods of royalty suspension;

Royalty Suspension Areas: Royalty suspension *may* apply for blocks in water depths of 200 meters or deeper; see the map for specific areas. See 30 CFR 203 for the final rule specifying royalty suspension terms.

The map titled "Stipulations and Deferred Blocks, Sale 172, Final" depicts the blocks where the Topographic Features, Live Bottoms, Military Areas, and Blocks South of Baldwin County, Alabama, stipulations apply. The texts of the lease stipulations Thus, the advantages of incorporation by reference are realized and publication of the complete description of each SIAP contained in FAA form documents is unnecessary. The provisions of this amendment state the affected CFR (and FAR) sections, with the types and effective dates of the SIAPs. This amendment also identifies the airport, its location, the procedure identification and the amendment number.

The Rule

This amendment to part 97 is effective upon publication of each separate SIAP as contained in the transmittal. Some SIAP amendments may have been previously issued by the FAA in a National Flight Data Center (FDC) Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) as an emergency action of immediate flight safety relating directly to published aeronautical charts. The circumstances which created the need for some SIAP amendments may require making them effective in less than 30 days. For the remaining SIAPs, an effective date at least 30 days after publication is provided.

Further, the SIAPs contained in this amendment are based on the criteria contained in the U.S. Standard for Terminal Instrument Approach Procedures (TERPS). In developing these SIAPs, the TERPS criteria were applied to the conditions existing or anticipated at the affected airports. Because of the close and immediate relationship between these SIAPs and safety in air commerce, I find that notice and public procedure before adopting these SIAPs are impracticable and contrary to the public interest and, where applicable, that good cause exists for making some SIAPs effective in less than 30 days.

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore—(1) is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a 'significant rule'' under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. For the same reason, the FAA certifies that this amendment will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 97

Air Traffic Control, Airports, Navigation (Air).

Issued in Washington, DC on January 9, 1998.

Quentin J. Smith, Jr.,

Acting Director, Flight Standards Service.

Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me, part 97 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 97) is amended by establishing, amending, suspending, or revoking Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, effective at 0901 UTC on the dates specified, as follows:

PART 97—STANDARD INSTRUMENT **APPROACH PROCEDURES**

1. The authority citation for part 97 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40103, 40113, 40120, 44701; and 14 CFR 11.49(b)(2).

2. Part 97 is amended to read as follows:

§§ 97.23, 97.25, 97.27, 97.29, 97.31. 97.33 and 97.35 Amended

By amending: § 97.23 VOR, VOR/ DME, VOR or TACAN, and VOR/DME or TACAN; § 97.25 LOC, LOC/DME, LDA, LDA/DME, SDF, SDF/DME; § 97.27 NDB, NDB/DME; § 97.29 ILS, ILS/DME, ISMLS, MLS, MLS/DME, MLS/RNAV; § 97.31 RADAR SIAPs; § 97.33 RNAV SIAPs; and § 97.35 COPTER SIAPs, identified as follows:

... Effective January 29, 1998

New York, NY, John F. Kennedy Intl, ILS RWY 4L, Amdt 9

...Effective February 26, 1998

Ames, IA, Ames Muni, GPS RWY 13,

Ames, IA, Ames Muni, GPS RWY 19, Orig

Plymouth, MA, Plymouth Muni, GPS RWY 6, Amdt 2

Worcester, MA, Worcester Regional, GPS RWY 29, Orig

Morris, MN, Morris Muni, GPS RWY 32, Orig

Lebanon, NH, Lebanon Muni, ILS RWY 18, Amdt 4

Manville, NJ, Central Jersey Regional, VOR OR GPS-A, Amdt 6

Manville, NJ, Central Jersey Regional GPS RWY 7, Orig

Newark, NJ, Newark Intl, ILS RWY 4R, Amdt 10

Fredricksburg, VA, Shannon, NDB RWY 24, Amdt 2

Fredricksburg, VA, Shannon, GPS RWY 24, Orig

Appleton, WI, Outagamie County, NDB RWY 29, Amdt 1

Appleton, WI, Outagamie County, ILS RWY 29, Amdt 2

Wisconsin Rapids, WI, Alexander Field South Wood County, GPS RWY 20,

Note: The following Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (SIAPs) published in TL 98-01 effective February 26, 1998, have been rescinded:

Yuma, AZ, Yuma MCAS-YUMA Intl, GPS RWY 17 Orig

Yuma, AZ, Yuma MCAS-Yuma Intl, GPS RWY 21R, Orig

...Effective April 23, 1998

Ashland, OH, Ashland County, VOR OR GPS-A, Amdt 8

Ashland, OH, Ashland County, NDB OR GPS RWY 18, Amdt 10

Georgetown, OH, Brown County, GPS

RWY 35, Orig Wilmington, OH, Airborne Airpark, ILS RWY 4L, Amdt 4

Wilmington, OH, Airborne Airpark, ILS/ DME RWY 4R, Amdt 1A, **CANCELLED**

Wilmington, OH, Airborne Airpark, ILS RWY 4R, Orig

Wilmington, OH, Airborne Airpark, ILS/ DME RWY 22L, Amdt 1, **CANCELLED**

Wilmington, OH, Airborne Airpark, ILS RWY 22L, Orig

Rice Lake, WI, Rice Lake Regional-Carl's Field, VOR RWY 1, Orig

[FR Doc, 98-1098 Filed 1-15-98; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

30 CFR Part 203

RIN 1010-AC13

Royalty Relief for Producing Leases and Certain Existing Leases In Deep Water

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule establishes conditions for reducing royalties on producing leases; provides for suspension of royalty payments on certain deep water leases issued as the result of lease sales held before November 28, 1995; and describes the information required for a complete application for royalty relief. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** This rule is effective

February 17, 1998. However, the information collection requirements contained in § 203.61 will not become effective until approved by the Office of Management (OMB). MMS will publish



United States Department of the Interior

MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE Washington, DC 20240

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

SURNAME

FEB - 9 1999

Memorandum

To:

Sylvia Baca

Acting Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management

From:

Cynthia Quarterman

Cynthia Quarterman

Director, Minerals Management Service

Subject:

Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Lease Sale 172, Central Gull of

Mexico—Decisions on Final Notice of Sale

Your decision is sought on the terms and conditions to be included in the final Notice of Sale for Heath Sale 172 in the Central Gulf. The sale is scheduled for March 17, 1999.

Under section 19(c) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA), you are required to accept the recommendations of the Governor of an affected State regarding the size, timing, or location of the sale if you determine, "that they provide for a reasonable balance between the national interest and the well-being of the citizens of the affected State." In November 1998, we provided the Governors of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas the opportunity to make recommendations on the proposed Notice of Sale. Only the Governor of Alabama responded to this request. Governor James of Alabama, in his letter of January 6, 1999, stated that he remains opposed to leasing south and within 15 miles of the Baldwin County coastline (He also expressed his concerns regarding leasing in this area in his comments on the proposed Notice of Sale for Sale 169.); but if MMS chooses to offer blocks in this area for lease, he strongly urges MMS to impose a lease stipulation on Mobile Area, Block 829 to minimize potential visual impacts of new oil and gas facilities that may be required. See Attachment 1 for more information.

Section 307(c)(1) of the Coastal Zone Management Act, as amended, requires that: "each Federal agency activity within or outside the coastal zone that affects any land or water use or natural resource of the coastal zone shall be carried out in a manner which is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of approved State management programs." In October 1998, the MMS sent consistency determinations to the States of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, finding that proposed Sale 172 was consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of their coastal management plans. All four States concurred with our determinations. In their concurrence letter of December 4, 1998, the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources expressed concern over potential OCS-related wetlands loss, urging that MMS find means to compensate Louisiana for direct and indirect effects of OCS-related activities on wetlands. They stated their concern about the infrastructure costs incurred by the State to meet the growing needs of deepwater development,

409-0302

Name	Position at time of surname	Sale / Rule	Action	Involvement*	Date
Gerald D. Rhodes	Eng&S Br., Petroleum Engineer	ANPR Implementing DWRRA		P	2/1/1996
John V. Mirabella	Eng&S Br., Chief Engineer	ANPR Implementing DWRRA		S	2/1/1996
Elmer P. Danenberger	Op&Safety Mgmt., Chief	ANPR Implementing DWRRA		S	2/1/1996
Henry Bartholomew	Op&Safety Mgmt., DAD	ANPR Implementing DWRRA		S	2/1/1996
Milo Mason	SOL/ROM	ANPR Implementing DWRRA		S	2/6/1996
Peter Schaumberg	SOL/ROM	ANPR Implementing DWRRA		S	2/6/1996
Kathrine L. Henry	Assoc. SOL for Energy & Resources	ANPR Implementing DWRRA		S	2/6/1996
Thomas Gernhofer	OMM, AD	ANPR Implementing DWRRA		S	2/7/1996
Hugh Hilliard	PMI	ANPR Implementing DWRRA		S	2/7/1996
Lucy Querques (Denett)	PMI, AD	ANPR Implementing DWRRA		S	2/7/1996
Carolita U. Kalluar	OMM, AD	ANPR Implementing DWRRA		S	
Cynthia Quarterman	MMS Director	ANPR Implementing DWRRA		S	2/8/1996
Bob Armstrong	DOI, ASLM	ANPR Implementing DWRRA		S	2/14/1996
Walter Cruickshank	OMAD, Chief	IRN Implementing DWRRA E	vieting Leases	?	2
Larry Maloney	PMI	IRN Implementing DWRRA E		S	5/15/1996
Bill Hauser	for Eng&S Br., Chief	IRN Implementing DWRRA E		S	5/15/1996
Sharon Buffington	for Engineer and Technology Div., Chief	IRN Implementing DWRRA E		S	5/15/1996
Larry J. Slaski	for Resource Evaluation Div., Chief	IRN Implementing DWRRA E		S	5/15/1996
Terry Holman for	Res. & Env. Mgmt., DAD	IRN Implementing DWRRA E		s	5/15/1996
Jeff Wiese	for Op&Safety Mgmt., DAD	IRN Implementing DWRRA E		S	5/15/1996
Kathrine L. Henry	Assoc. SQL for Mineral Resources	IRN Implementing DWRRA B		S	5/16/1996
Milo Mason	ISOL/ROM	IRN Implementing DWRRA E		S	5/16/1996
Peter Schaumberg	Acting, Assoc. SOL for Mineral Resources	IRN Implementing DWRRA E		S	5/16/1996
Thomas Gernhofer	OMM, AD	IRN Implementing DWRRA E		S	5/17/1996
Milt Dial	Royalty Management	IRN Implementing DWRRA E		S	5/17/1996
R. Dale Fazio	Royalty Management, AD	IRN Implementing DWRRA B		S	5/17/1996
Hugh Hilliard	PMI	IRN Implementing DWRRA E	xisting Leases	S	5/14/1996
Walter Cruickshank	PMI	IRN Implementing DWRRA E	xisting Leases	S	5/15/1996
Lucy Querques (Denett)	PMI, AD	IRN Implementing DWRRA E	xisting Leases	S	5/17/1996
Carolita U. Kalluar	OMM, AD	IRN Implementing DWRRA E	xisting Leases	S	5/17/1996
Cynthia Quarterman	MMS Director	IRN Implementing DWRRA E		S	5/17/1996
William D. Bettenberg	Office of Pol. Anl.	IRN Implementing DWRRA B		S	5/17/1996
Bettine Montgomery	MMS FR Liaison	IRN Implementing DWRRA E		S	5/24/1996
Bob Armstrong	DOI, ASLM	IRN Implementing DWRRA E	xisting Leases	S	5/20/1996
			1		10/0/1000
Sam Fraser	OMM, Economist	FR Implementing DWRRA E		Р	10/6/1997
Peter Schaumberg	Acting, Assoc. SOL for Mineral Resources	FR Implementing DWRRA E		S	10/10/1997
Milo Mason	SOL/ROM	FR Implementing DWRRA E		S	10/??/1997
Carolita U. Kalluar	OMM, AD	FR Implementing DWRRA E		S	10/14/1997
Walter Cruickshank	PMI	FR Implementing DWRRA E		S	10/16/1997
Robert E. Brown	PMI, AD	FR Implementing DWRRA E		X	10/28/1997
Cynthia Quarterman	MMS Director DOI, ASLM	FR Implementing DWRRA E		s	11/6/1997
Bob Armstrong	DOI, ASLIVI	TR implementing DWARA E.	T Leases	10	11/0/133/
Walter Cruickshank	OMAD, Chief	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne	w L pases	Р	3/??/1996
John V. Mirabella	Eng&S Br., Chief	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne		s	3/8/1996
Elmer P. Danenberger	Op&Safety Mgmt., Chief	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne		S	3/8/1996
Henry Bartholomew	Op&Safety Mgmt., DAD	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne		S	3/8/1996
Larry J. Slaski	Resource Evaluation staff	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne		S	3/8/1996
Paul Martin	RED, Chief	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne		S	3/8/1996
Thomas A. Readinger	DAD/Resources & Env. Mgmt.	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne		S	3/8/1996
Milo Mason	SOL/ROM	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne	w Leases	S	3/11/1996
Peter Schaumberg	SOL/ROM	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne		S	3/11/1996
Kathrine L. Henry	Assoc. SOL for Mineral Resources	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne	w Leases	S	3/11/1996
Thomas Gernhofer	OMM, AD	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne	w Leases	S	3/11/1996
R. Dale Fazio	Royalty Management, AD	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne	w Leases	S	3/11/1996
Hugh Hilliard	for PMI, AD	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne	w Leases	S	3/11/1996
Cynthia Quarterman	MMS Director	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne		S	3/11/1996
Bob Armstrong	DOI, ASLM	IR Implementing DWRRA Ne	w Leases	X	3/??/1996
Walter Cruickshank	PMI/WD, Chief	FR Implementing DWRRA N		S	8/??/97
Milo Mason	SOL/ROM	FR Implementing DWRRA N		S	8/20/1997
Peter Schaumberg	Acting Deputy Assoc. SOL Min. Res.	FR Implementing DWRRA N		S	8/20/1997
Carolita U. Kalluar	OMM, AD	FR Implementing DWRRA N		S	8/22/1997
Walter Cruickshank	PMI	FR Implementing DWRRA N		S	9/4/1997
Robert E. Brown	PMI, AD	FR Implementing DWRRA N		S	9/5/1997
Cynthia Quarterman	MMS Director	FR Implementing DWRRA N		X	9/9/1997
Sylvia Baca	AS/LM	FR Implementing DWRRA N		S	9/22/1997
	PMI	FR Implementing DWRRA N	ew Leases	S	8/18/1997
Larry Maloney				0	B/401100-
	Op&Safety Mgmt. Op&Safety Mgmt., Chief	FR Implementing DWRRA N		S	8/10/1997 8/15/1997

^{*} X=Signature, S=Surname, P=Preparer

** Memo regarding streamlining of Leasing Documents by incorporation by reference

Eng&S Br.	Engineering & Standards Branch
Op&Safety Mgmt.	Operations and Safety Management
IRN	Interim Rule Notice
DWRRA	Deep Water Royalty Relief Act
ANPR	Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
Office of Pol. Anl.	Office of Policy Analysis
RED	Resource Evaluation Division
RM	Royalty Management
AD	Associate Director
Dir.	Director
DAD	Deputy Associate Director
FR	Final Rule
IR	Interim Rule
FNOS	Final Notice of Sale
PNOS	Proposed Notice of Sale